LIBRARY

The Urban District of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1948.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29735026

The Urban District of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1948.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

YEAR 1948.

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor W. GREGG, J.P.

Chairman of the Health Committee:

Councillor A. DICK.

Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee:

Councillor J. EATON.

Councillors:

H. Bell.	N. Lonsdale.
L. Chorley.	W. M. Lloyd.
P. T. Cluskey.	J. L. Parry.
A. Dick.	R. Ryder.
J. Eaton.	J. H. Wall.
W. Gregg.	W. Wall.

Medical Officer of Health:

J. G. HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

H. HARRISON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

A. LAVELLE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year 17 children died who, at the time of their death, had not reached the age of one year.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

During the year, there was one death from acute polio-myel : and no deaths from Whooping Cough, no deaths from Diphtheria, no deaths from Measles, and no deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Fever. This gives a Zymotic Death Rate of 0·13.

There were two deaths from Diarrhæal Diseases under the age of two years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births	Legitimate ...	446	216	230
	Illegitimate ...	26	10	16
	Total	472	226	246

Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1948 ... 21·3

Stillbirths	7	3	4	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...				14
Deaths	207	116	91	
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population ...				9·3

Deaths from puerperal causes—		Death-rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal and post-bortive sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other maternal causes	1	2·08
Total	1	2·08

*Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	36
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	35
Illigetimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	38

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	36
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Diarhoea (under two years of age)	2

LITHERLAND U.D.C.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population.				Maternal mortality rate.		Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1,000 *live* births	Per 1,000 *total* (live and still) births	
Population: For birth-rate, For death-rates	22,120.						
Mean of *5 *years*, 1943-1947	23·9	11·9	0·76	1·60	0·79	0·77	70
Year—							
1947	27·0	11·2	0·53	1·94	1·79	1·76	59
1948	21·3*	9·3	0·85	1·62	2·11	2·08	36
Increase or decrease in 1948 *on*—							
5 years' average, 1943-1947	—2·6	—·26	+0·09	+0·02	+1·32	+1·31	—34
Previous year	—5·7	—1·9	+0·32	—0·32	+0·32	+0·32	—23

* 1948 adjusted death rate (comparability factor,) = / per 1,000.

Age at date of Inoculation	13 1935	12 1936	11 1937	10 1938	9 1939	8 1940	7 1941	6 1942	5 1943	4 1944	3 1945	2 1946	1 1947	Under 1 1948	Total
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	23	7	2	2	168	17	
1—2 years ...	11	6	2	5	9	14	44	118	144	115	209	189	118	262	Under five years 1113
2—3 ,, ...	21	5	9	10	6	21	37	96	51	23	31	41	37	32	
3—4 ,, ...	22	9	8	1	11	23	30	86	55	10	20	15	12	7	
4—5 ,, ...	30	10	12	16	10	26	31	63	59	7	11	9	7	10	
5—6 ,, ...	47	38	29	30	31	63	59	55	35	5	19	2	5	6	
6—7 ,, ...	51	17	16	29	14	35	41	46	38	1	19	11	3	8	
7—8 ,, ...	41	24	14	13	10	11	27	22	30	7	12	2	—	2	5—10 years 1062
8—9 ,, ...	40	40	9	9	16	16	24	14	25	6	8	3	2	1	
9—10 ,, ...	36	31	18	12	12	9	19	16	24	3	7	2	—	—	
10—11 ,, ...	55	41	9	8	9	11	21	9	25	8	5	5	1	1	
11—12 ,, ...	30	37	9	3	4	6	18	8	9	2	8	4	—	—	
12—13 ,, ...	21	21	4	4	2	9	9	13	8	1	2	7	1	—	10-15 years 1106
13—14 ,, ...	11	14	7	6	1	9	8	1	8	1	1	3	—	—	
14—15 ,, ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
15 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Over 15 years 1108
Age not known ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals ...	416	294	146	146	135	255	370	547	534	196	354	296	354	346	4389

Causes of Death in Litherland Urban District, 1948.

	Causes of Death.	*M.*		*F.*
		116	—	91
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	...	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	...	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	...	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	...	—
5.	Diphtheria	—	...	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	13	...	6
7.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	—	...	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases	1	...	1
9.	Influenza	—	...	—
10.	Measles	—	...	—
11.	Ac. polio-mpel: and polio-enceph ...	1	...	—
12.	Ac. inf. enceph.	—	...	—
13.	Cancer of buc. cav. & oesoph. (M.), uterus (F.)	—	...	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	...	3
15.	Cancer of breast	—	...	2
16.	Cancer of all other sites	17	...	8
17.	Diabetes	2	...	1
18.	Intra-cran: visc: lesions	9	...	11
19.	Heart Disease	31	...	19
20.	Other diseases of circ. system	—	...	4
21.	Bronchitis	8	...	3
22.	Pneumonia	4	...	4
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	...	—
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	...	2
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	...	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	...	—
27.	Other Digestic Diseases	1	...	1
28.	Nephritis	1	...	3
29.	Puer. and post-abort. sepsis	—	...	—
30.	Other maternal causes	—	...	1
31.	Premature Birth	4	...	1
32.	Con. mal: birth inj. infant dis: ...	2	...	2
33.	Suicide	3	...	—
34.	Road Traffic acc.	1	...	—
35.	Other violent causes	4	...	1
36.	All other causes	6	...	14
	All causes ...	116	...	91

S.D. 55.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1948.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London. Administrative County.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.			
Births— *				
Live Births	17.9 (a)	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still Births	0.42 (a)	0.52	0.43	0.39
Deaths—				
All Causes ...	10.8 (a)	11.6	10.7	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Influenza	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox...	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephelitis ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
Notifications—(Corrected)	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths—				
All causes under 1 year of age ...	34 (b)	39	32	31
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	0.03	0 03	0.01	0 03
Scarlet Fever	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough ...	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox...	—	—	—	—
Measles	9.34	9.75	8 84	9.17
Pneumonia	0.73	0.84	0.60	0 57
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0.04	0 05	0.04	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis	0.00	0.00	0.00	0,00
Notifications (Corrected)	Rates per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births:—			
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34 (c)

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

	Rates per 1000 total (Live and Still) Births.	Rates per million women aged 15-44.
140 Abortion with Sepsis ..	0.11	9
141 Abortion without Sepsis ..	0.05	4
147 Puerperal Infections ..	0.13	
142-146, 148-150 Other maternal causes	0.73	

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population
(b) Per 1,000 related births.
(c) In London Puerperal fever alone was 0.61.

2.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

HOSPITALS.

There are no hospitals in the district. Infectious diseases are admitted to Fazakerley Hospital, Liverpool.

No arrangements are in force for hospitalisation of minor infectious disease, such as Measles. While the need for hospital treatment arises but rarely in these cases, it is occasionally imperative, and when this occurs difficulty is found in obtaining admission of the patient to hosptial.

TUBERCULOSIS.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council, the Tuberculosis Dispensary being situated at "Ellesmere," Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool, Bootle and Crosby Hospitals are available.

MIDWIVES.

There are three Midwives on the County Council Register and practising in the district. There are no Health Visitors, Nurses or Midwives employed by or assisted by the Local Authority.

GENERAL MEDICAL. GENERAL SURGICAL.

These cases are removed to the General Hospitals of Liverpool, Bootle and Waterloo.

CHILDREN.

The above Hospitals are used, also the Liverpool Children's Hospital.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool Voluntary Hospitals.

MATERNITY MORTALITY.

No special arrangements have been made for the investigation of maternal deaths, and cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia; this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious diseases the Motor Ambulances of the Council's, joint with Crosby.

(b) For non-infectious cases, accident and maternity cases the Motor Ambulances of the Council's, joint with Crosby.

After the 5th July, 1948, the Lancashire County Council were responsible for providing an Ambulance throughout the district, but since this was not fully implemented before the end of the year the above Ambulances continued to serve Litherland.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council.

The Clinic is situated at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland, and provides for:—

Maternity and Child Welfare.	Consultation and treatment.
School Clinic.	Dental, orthopædic, ophthalmic and minor ailments.

The times of opening are as follows:—

Monday	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday	10-0 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Wednesday	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon;	2 to 4 p.m.
Thursday	9-15 a.m. to 12-15 p.m.;	2 to 4 p.m.
Friday	9-0 a.m. to 12 noon.	

There is no Artificial Light Clinic; or Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children in the district.

A Day Nursery was opened on April 10th, 1943, to accommodate 50 children. It has proved a success and met a wartime need of some urgency. Consequently, an extension was opened on the 21st June, 1944, for 40 children. The Nursery is open from Monday to Friday at 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children of the age of 6 months to 5 years are accepted. This nursery is administered by the County Council.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Two District Nurses (Litherland District Nursing Association) visit on request of the Medical Practitioners by arrangement with the District Nursing Association. There is no financial obligation to the Council. This service was taken over by the County Council from July 5th, 1948.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Sputum.—These specimens are sent direct to Lancashire County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary, by Medical Practitioners.

Blood, Throat Swabs, etc.—Sent direct by Medical Practitioners to Liverpool University, Bacteriological Department.

Milk.—Six samples were submitted to Liverpool University.

3.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is obtained from the City of Liverpool; the chief source is Lake Vyrnwy in Wales. The water is excellent in quality, and there is a constant supply for all purposes. The number of houses supplied direct from the public mains is approximately 5,428. There has been no analysis during the year. Complaints of discolouration and sediment were reported to Liverpool Corporation, and received prompt attention. The whole of the dwelling-houses are supplied from the public water mains direct to the houses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The sewage (which is dealt with on the combined system) is discharged without treatment into the River Mersey.

The Rimrose Brook Drainage Scheme is in progress, which in time should ameliorate conditions in the lower lying part of the district, which are subject to flooding.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams and no new works have been established to cause pollution.

Closet accommodation at the end of 1948:—

Privy Middens—

No. of Middens	One.
No. of Closets attached to these Middens...	One.
No. of Pail Closets	Nil.
No. of Houses with Fresh Water Closets...	6,176
No. of Waste Water Closets	Nil.

SCAVENGING.

This work was transferred during 1942 from the Surveyor's Department to the Sanitary Department, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, and is working satisfactorily. Refuse is conveyed by motor vehicles to the Council's tips, situated in Beach Road, Litherland.

Sanitary Inspections during 1948.

No. of premises visited	2,151
Defects or Nuisances—	
No. discovered	4,327
No. abated	4,167
No. of Notices served—	
Informal	2,357
Statutory	Nil.
Legal Proceedings	Nil.

Offices and Shops Act, 1934.

No statutory action has been necessary; sanitary defects, etc., have been carried out as required.

Camping Sites.

There were no licences issued for camping sites during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools within the District.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Forty-six houses were disinfected during the year; 11 Council houses and 35 other houses, by means of spraying with D.D.T. in Zaldecide and sulphur candles. One hundred and ninety-four houses were disinfected for cockroaches, fleas, ants, crickets, earwigs, flies, silver fish and wood lice.

Snails in the back passages were treated with salt.

Schools.

The sanitary condition and the water supply of the schools in the district is generally satisfactory. Insanitary trough closets at one school have been replaced by washdown pedestals during the year. The schools have been disinfected after the holidays. There was no closing of schools as a result of infection during the year.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

There are no Common Lodging Houses; Houses let in Lodgings; Tents, Vans or Sheds, or Underground Sleeping Rooms in the district.

Offensive Trades.

There are three Tanneries and ten Fish and Chip Potato premises in the district; these are inspected from time to time.

Slaughter-houses.

There is only one Private Slaughter-house in the district, and this is a Registered Slaughter-house.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district in which Rag Flock is manufactured or sold.

Canal Boats.

Number inspected: None.

4.—Housing.

Statistics for the Year 1948.

There were 177 houses built during the year; 16 of which were flats.

Housing Application Forms, 1948.

Housing Application Forms for Council houses are continually being received, both from inside and outside the district.

The number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year was approximately 751, the number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year was 184, and 143 cases of overcrowding have been relieved during the year. There is still a serious shortage of houses for all classes of people in the district.

5.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

The Cowsheds, Dairies , and Milk Shops within the district are periodically inspected, and every effort is being made to produce clean healthy milk.

Six samples were obtained from persons selling milk within the district, and sent for Bacteriological examination.

"Tubercle Bacilli" was negative in all samples.

Veterinary inspections are carried out if any animal is suspected, or on a sample of milk showing Tubercle Bacilli.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Eight samples of milk and eight samples of fruit ices were submitted to the County Analyst; all samples were reported genuine. One sample of new laid eggs and one of dripping were also reported to above and reported wholesome.

The following 118 samples were obtained in Litherland by the County Sanitary Officer during the year:—

Milk, 74; Butter, 2; Margarine, 5; Cooking Fat, 5; Condensed Milk, full cream unsweetened, 4; Rye Crisp Bread, 1; Wheat Crisp Bread, 1; Fancy Bread, 1; Ice Cream, 4; Castor Oil, 4; Picked Gherkins, 1; Pickled Red Cabbage, 1; Pickled Onions, 1; Piccalilli, 1; Ice Lollies, 8; Sweets, 4.

All the above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of 1 Pickled Gherkins, 1 Pickled Red Cabbage, 1 Pickled Onions and 1 Piccalilli, which bore no declaration of ingredients, and constituted an offence under the Labelling of Food Order. The packers were notified in these cases: 1 Cooking Fat, which contained 1·4 per cent. of water (vendor cautioned); and one Iced Lollie, which contained 0·5 per cent. of gelatine (vendor cautioned).

Meat and Other Foods.

The food exposed for sale or prepared in the district has been examined from time to time. The premises and shops have been kept in a cleanly state.

Bakehouses.

There are eight Bakehouses in the district; these are in a sanitary condition, clean and well kept; minor repairs have been attended to.

6.—Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

Three hundred and twenty-nine cases of infectious diseases were notified, and thirty were removed to Hospital (see Tables of Notifiable Diseases).

Diphtheria Immunization.

Immunization against Diphtheria has been undertaken by the Local Authority until taken over by the County Council on July 5th, 1948; this is done at the County Clinic, Linacre Road, Litherland, by arrangement with Private Practitioners on Friday afternoon during school time; 312 cases were completed during the year, each receiving two injections of A.P.T.

Immunization against Diphtheria commenced on 17th May, 1935; during this period 4,981 cases have been immunized in the district, although many reside outside the district. 395 notifications of diphtheria have been received, and of these only 35 had previously been inoculated.

There were no deaths (see chart on Immunization in front of page 7) from diphtheria during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

No return cases were discovered during the year, and there were no deaths from Scarlet Fever.

Malaria.

There was one case notified during the year, contracted abroad.

Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid).

There were no cases of Para-Typhoid notified during the year.

Cancer.

There were 25 deaths from Cancer (17 males and 8 females) during the year, as against 40 in 1947. Private Practitioners and Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool City Hospitals for Radium Treatment if necessary.

Death rate from Cancer was 1·62.

Prevention of Blindness.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary in respect of Tuberculosis employees in the Milk Trade, or to Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925, for removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

General.

There have been no Primary or Re-Vaccinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

It has not been necessary to close the schools during the year on account of sickness.

There have been no reports made under Article 17 (7) Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, which refers to cases of Plague, Cholera, Smallpox, or any serious outbreak of disease in the district.

Influenza.

There was no severe Influenza Epidemic during the year.

There were no other diseases or cases of sickness which required special attention.

Measles.

Measles showed an increase during the year, 254 cases being notified as against 174 in 1947.

Whooping Cough.

Whooping Cough Prophylactic and Curative Serum has been made available to Medical Practitioners free of charge. This has resulted in arresting the progress of this disease and shortening the period of infectivity; 10 cases were notified during the year, as against 91 in 1947.

Scabies.

Cases in diminishing numbers have been dealt with at home during the year.

Disinfection.

There were 137 rooms in 96 houses disinfected during the year by means of Formaldehyde Vapour and Izal (Sprayed) after Infectious Disease, including Tuberculosis. Several articles were disinfected at the Council's Disinfector (a Washington Lyons Type) situated in the Council's yard, Field Lane.

There is no arrangement for bathing verminous persons, etc.

Disinfestation has been carried out at forty-six houses.

Notifiable Diseases, 1948.

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to Hospital, and deaths in Hospital during the year 1948 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Cases Notified. Total Cases at all Ages.	Years. Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over	Total Deaths.	Hospital. Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District
Smallpox...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	47	...	1	...	8	...	27	8	1	...	2	...	...	...	9	...
*Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	*2	...
Enteric Fever, excluding Paratyphoid	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paratyphoid Fever ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, (excluding rubella) ...	254	16	82	...	80	...	75	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...
Whooping Cough ...	10	3	2	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Pneumonia Acute Primary Acute Influenzal	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...	...	2	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	Nil	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	3	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Malaria— Contracted in this C'try	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Abroad	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	1	...
Any other disease notifiable in district, *e.g.*— Chicken Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
TOTALS ...	329	24	85	2	93	...	104	11	2	3	3	2	...	...	30	...

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and were later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious, and were removed from the register.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

329 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year.

	Cases Notified.									
	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939
Smallpox	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	47	38	23	67	47	34	36	20	48	74
Diphtheria & Mem. Croup	2	16	9	26	12	23	27	36	61	87
Typhoid Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	...	25	...	...
Paratyphoid	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	4	2	7	8	5	9	6	2	10
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	1	2	...	2	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	3	1	Nil	2	1	2	1	5	10	...
Poliomyelitis	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1	...	1	1	...	3
Acute Primary Pneumonia / Influenzal Pneumonia	4	2	7	16	30	27	6	26	45	21
Anthrax	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	1	1	...	...	...
Encephal Leth	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	1	Nil	1	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding rubella)	254	174	199	71	369	185	323	30	370	2
Whooping Cough ...	10	91	71	38	111	69	35	84	122	1
Dysentry	3	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	Nil	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis... ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	329	332	316	229	581	348	441	233	661	202

Infectious Diseases.

	Cases Removed to Hospital									
	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939
Smallpox	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	9	12	11	42	13	19	16	13	28	50
*Diphtheria	2	20	16	36	17	23	21	38	60	103
Typhoid Fever	...	Nil								
Para-typhoid Fever ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	27	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	Nil	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	2	...	2	4	2	4	2	...	4
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	3	1	...	2	1	2	2	4	10	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	Nil	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles	5	4	7	1	...	1	1	...	5	...
Encephal Leth.	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	1	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia ...	2	1	2	...	2	...	1	2	9	...
Whooping Cough ...	2	Nil	3	2	1	2	1	2	...	...
Anthrax	...	Nil	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Dysentry	2	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	...	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis... ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	30	47	44	87	40	52	49	89	114	158

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious disease and were removed from the register.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948 (Local Register).

AGE PERIODS.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...
5	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
15	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
20 ...	1	5	...	...	...	1	...	...
25 ...	3	8	...	...	4	5	...	...
35 ...	4	3	1	...	2	1	...	...
45	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
55	4	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 and upwards	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	19	23	4	1	13	8		
	42		5		21		Nil	

Death rate from Tuberculosis Respiratory System per 1000=0·85.

The rate of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was one to twenty-one.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

No action has been taken or necessary in respect of persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, employed in the Milk Trade, or for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

7.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The whole of this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council; there was one case notified during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1948 for the Urban District of Litherland in the County of Lancaster.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	14	34	2	...	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	45	76	...	...	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	5	10	...	...	3
TOTAL		64	120	2	...	

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	5	5		1		4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6						6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	6	6				8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (*a*) insufficient	9				1		9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	9	9		1		10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes ...	11						11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	10	10				12
TOTAL	60	30	30		3		60

Part VIII of the Act.
OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)		M/c line No. (2)	Section 110: No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)	Section 111: No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (6)	N'tices served (7)	Prosecutions (8)	M/c line No. (9)
Wearing apparel	Making, etc.	13	2	...	...	...	...	...	13
	Cleaning and washing ...	14							14
TOTAL		70	2	...	...	...	...	...	70

I again wish to thank the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Harrison, for his valued assistance, and to tender my thanks to the various members of the Council for considering advice given by me.

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. HAILWOOD,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Urban District Council of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector.

1948.

October, 1949.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work executed in the Health Department during the year ending 31st December, 1948, together with the particulars of the nuisances abated and improvements effected thereby.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

During the year 4,858 inspections and re-inspections were made in reference to complaints and housing.

It was necessary in numerous instances, however, to interview and write to the persons concerned, drawing their attention to notices which had not received prompt attention.

There were 2,357 Preliminary Notices and letters, etc., referring to nuisances and general dilapidations served, and in due course complied with.

No Abatement Notices were served during the year, the work having been complied with before notice was served.

Difficulties owing to shortage of building materials are being experienced, which cause considerable delay in the execution of repairs.

INSPECTION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY.—The food exposed for sale in the district has been inspected from time to time. Meat shops and food preparing places are inspected periodically. Any animals slaughtered in the district are examined.

One shopkeeper was warned for placing vegetables on the pavement in front of the shop, risking soiling by dogs.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES. — There is one "private" slaughter-house within the district; one goat was slaughtered and inspected in the Urban District during the year.

INSPECTION OF MEAT:—

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption:—6 cwts. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Number of cowkeepers on register, 1; number of milk shops (other than cowkeepers), 6; 20 visits were made during the year. On the whole a fairly high standard of cleanliness is maintained, and the health of the cattle is satisfactory.

Nine supplementary licences were issued to retail:—

(1) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk (eight).
(2) "Pasteurised" Milk (one).

MILK SAMPLES.—Six samples were taken for the discovery of Tuberculosis among cattle; all samples were reported "negative" to the biological test. Eight samples of milk and eight samples of fruit ices were also taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; all samples were reported genuine. One sample of new laid eggs and one of dripping were also submitted for analysis, and reported wholesome.

There are approximately 15 cows kept in the district.

One milk vendor was warned for throwing broken empty milk bottles on to waste land.

FISH FRYING SHOPS AND WET FISH SHOPS.—Sixty visits were paid to fish frying shops and wet fish shops, which were maintained in a generally satisfactory condition.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Visits have been made where black smoke and grit have been excessive; interviews between engineers and stokers have taken place and advice given One firm has fixed a grit arrester, at an approximate cost of £2,500, resulting in the removal of approximately 2 cwts. of grit every twenty-four hours. The engineer complains of the poor quality of the fuel, and are gradually converting to liquid fuel for steam raising.

REFUSE COLLECTION.—This work is carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Department; three gangs, with three vehicles are used, and work in close proximity to each other to enable the foreman to control same. Two new Dennis refuse collection vehicles are on order to replace two old ones in use.

Four hundred and twenty six new refuse bins were provided during the year, two hundred and twenty two of these were purchased from the Council, who arrange to deliver same. The number of moveable ashbins in the district is approximately 5968.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—Forty-six houses were disinfested during the year by means of spraying with Zaldecide and D.D.T., and sulphur candles. Clothing and bedding were taken to the Council's steam Disinfector. The whole of this work is carried out by the Council's workmen.

One hundred and ninety-four houses were disinfested for cockroaches, fleas, ants, flies, moths, silver fish, earwigs and wood lice. They were treated with Zaldecide and D.D.T. successfully. Snails in the back passages were treated with salt. Gammaxane powder has also been used with good results.

Nine dead dogs and four dead cats were removed during the year.

The tip at Brook Vale has been treated for fly infestation during the year. One food preparation place was treated for cockroaches.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT (THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943).—This work has been carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Food's Direction, under the Infestation Order, 1943.

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT (THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943).—The County Council have delegated their powers under the Act to the Local Authority; one operative is employed on Rodent Control, with assistance from the Engineer's Department when engaged on sewers.

PRIVATE DWELLINGS.—During the year 106 complaints of rat infestation and 233 of mice infestation were received and dealt with. The treatment carried out resulted in the destruction of approximately 263 rats and 1,970 mice; advice was also given as to the storage of food.

BUSINESS PREMISES.—During the year 16 complaints of rat infestation and 5 of mice infestation were received and treated in accordance with the Ministry's instructions. The estimated kill after the above treatment was 380 rats and 180 mice.

COUNCIL PROPERTY.—The treatment of rat infestation on Council Property included the Salvage Depot, Stores and Park Greenhouses, resulting in the destruction of approximately 69 rats and 48 mice.

Beach Road Tip and the Allotments received two treatments during the year, resulting in the destruction of approximately 486 rats.

SEWERS.—Two sewer treatments were carried out during the year, the first in March and the second in September. An Inspector of the Ministry visited the district whilst treatment was in progress and satisfied himself that the work was being carried out in accordance with the Ministry's instructions, thus enabling the Local Authority to receive assistance from the Ministry.

The estimated kill after the first treatment was 34 rats, and after the second treatment 17 rats.

A summary of the complaints and destruction of rodents is as follows:—

	Complaints.		*Destruction (approx.)*	
	Rats.	*Mice.*	*Rats.*	*Mice.*
Private Dwellings ...	106	233	263	1970
Business Premises ...	16	5	380	180
Council Property ...	—	—	69	48
Alloments	—	—	486	—
Sewers	—	—	51	—
Totals ...	122	238	1249	2198

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.—There is no recognised camping site in the district, but caravan dwellers will persist in drawing in on to the waste land in the district, in particular the land between Hawthorne Road and Orrell Road. The Caravan dwellers have been visited regularly in company with the Police, who have given valuable assistance in keeping them under observation until removed.

SUPERVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Seventy-eight visits were paid to houses where Infectious Diseases had occurred, and the necessary enquiries made into each case, also a sanitary survey was made of the premises, notices served where necessary for various defects, and work carried out, and 21 re-visits were paid to ensure that the work was carried out. The schools have been thoroughly disinfected during the year. The head teachers have been notified regarding children attending the schools where infectious disease had occurred, also after disinfection.

The Nursery has also been disinfected after minor infectious disease.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.—One hundred and forty visits and re-visits were made to factories during the year. Repairs to W.C.'s, drains, water supply, floors, ventilation and rain-water pipes, have been carried out during the year. The larger factories find employment for approximately 2,805 persons.

OUTWORKERS.—Visits were made to premises where out-workers were engaged; the premises were found to be satisfactory.

SALVAGE.

WASTE FOOD.—During the year 53 tons 9 cwts. 2 qrs. of food was collected and disposed of to pig dealers.

WASTE PAPER.—During the year 93 tons 18 cwts. 0 qrs. of waste paper were baled and collected for pulping, an increase of 40 tons over the previous year.

MISCELLANEOUS.—During the year approximately 10 tons of Metal, Rags, Sacking, Bones and Rubber were collected and disposed of.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT.

Number of inspections and re-inspections (complaints and housing)	4858
Number of visits and re-visits to factories	140
Number of visits to bakehouses	18
Number of visits to cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops ...	20
Number of preliminary notices served and letters, etc. ...	2357
Number of visits to offensive trades	6
Samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination	6
Samples of milk taken under Food and Drugs Act ...	18
Cases of infectious disease visited and reported upon ...	78
Number of houses disinfected	96
Number of rooms disinfected	136
Number of verminous houses disinfested for bugs	46
Number of verminous houses disinfested for other insects, etc.	194
Number of visits to fish frying shops and wet fish shops...	60
Number of visits to butchers' shops and food preparing places	322
Number of visits to slaughter-house	2
Number of visits to schools	70
Number of visits to stable premises and garages	28
Number of visits re Diphtheria Immunization	6
Number of visits to Tents, Vans and Sheds	51
Rent books inspected	16

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drains tested, repaired or renewed	249
Defective w.c. cisterns, pans, traps, water supply, etc. ...	366
Staircases repaired	34
Defective water supply to houses, etc., new taps, burst pipes, etc.	176
Defective floors in dwelling houses, etc.	168
Offensive Accumulations	30
New ashbins provided	426
Insanitary yard surfaces	140
Walls and chimneys pointed and repaired	479
Defective eaves, gutters, r.w. pipes, etc.	243
New back boilers, storage cisterns and cylinders provided or repaired	61
Defective skirting boards repaired	74
Defective plasterwork and limewashing, etc.	352
Repairs to window sashes and frames, and lighting and ventilation improved	349
Leaky roofs (dwelling houses), etc.	364
New doors and repairs to doors	280
Animals and Fowls kept to be a nuisance	1
Defective wash boilers and structures	21
New sinks or other sanitary fittings	135
Defective fire ranges, jambs, and flues	199
Defective drainer boards	27

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Want of cleanliness	5
Ineffective drainage of floors	6
Defective sanitary conveniences	9
Other defects (burst pipes, walls, etc.)	10

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. HARRISON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.